

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 20-23 are pending in the present application, Claims 20-22 having been amended. Support for amendments to Claims 20-22 is found, for example, in the specification at page 87, lines 1-2 and in Fig. 10e. Thus, no new matter is added.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claim 20 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101; and Claims 20-23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Lenihan et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,169,843, hereinafter Lenihan) in view of Hirabayashi et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,002,834, hereinafter Hirabayashi).

With respect to the rejection of Claims 20-22, Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments to Claims 20-22 overcome the outstanding grounds of rejection. Amended Claims 20-22 all recite, *inter alia*, “the management area includes first copy management information of the stream data, and the data area includes second copy management information indicating a copyright state of information of the transport packet.”

Lenihan does not describe or suggest the above-noted element of Claims 20-22. As shown in Fig. 1A-1D of Lenihan, the data format described in Lenihan does not disclose or suggest the above-noted double copy-management scheme.

Furthermore, Hirabayashi does not cure the above-noted deficiency in Lenihan.

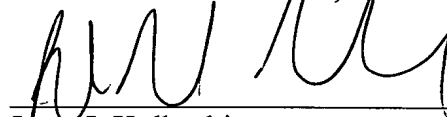
In view of the above-noted distinctions, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 20-22 (and Claim 23) patentably distinguish over Lenihan and Hirabayashi, taken alone or in proper combination.

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Consequently, in light of the above discussion and in view of the present amendment, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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